

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:868

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2015

Design and Road Safety

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Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the Design and Road Safety Standards fixed for construction of National Highways;
- (b) whether it is a fact that road fatalities take place due to poor enforcement of traffic norms, careless behaviour of drivers and other road users besides defective design and planning of infrastructure and if so, the measures taken in this regard;
- (c) whether the World Health Organisation (WHO) has released any report on road safety;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the comments in the report with particular reference to India;
- (e) whether any circular has been issued asking all agencies managing national highways to comply with road safety norms during design, construction and operation of stretches; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the other steps being taken to reduce the mortality and morbidity?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a) Standards for design including those for road safety for the roads including National Highways are published by Indian Roads Congress in the form of Codes and other publications. Ministry of Road Transport & Highways also issues guidelines from time to time on different aspects of construction of national highways including safety standards.

(b) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has taken a number of steps to prevent road accidents as per details mentioned under:

(i) The Government has approved a National Road Safety Policy. This Policy outlines various policy measures such as promoting awareness, establishing road safety information data base, encouraging safer road infrastructure including application of intelligent transport, enforcement of safety laws etc.

(ii) The Government has constituted the National Road Safety Council as the apex body to take policy decisions in matters of road safety.

(iii) The Ministry has requested all States/UTs for setting up of State Road Safety Council and District Road Safety Committees, and to hold their meetings regularly.

(iv) The Ministry has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on 4 'E's viz. Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care.

(v) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.

(vi) Road Safety Audit of selected stretches of National Highways.

(vii) Setting up of model driving training institutes in States and refresher training to drivers of Heavy Motor Vehicle in the unorganized sector.

(viii) Advocacy/Publicity campaign on road safety through the electronic and print media.

(ix) Tightening of safety standards for vehicles like Seat Belts, Power-steering, anti-lock braking system etc.

(x) Providing cranes and ambulances to various State Governments under the National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme for development on National Highways. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed stretches of National Highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.

(xi) Identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots)

(xii) Launch of pilot projects for providing cashless treatment of road accident victims on Gurgaon – Jaipur, Vadodara – Mumbai stretch of National Highways No. 8 and Ranchi – Rargaon - Mahulia stretch of National Highway No. 33.

(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. Global Status Report 2015 on Road Safety has been released by World Health Organization (WHO). Total number of 1,37,572 road fatalities in India during the year 2013 has been reported in the said publication. Persons killed in Road Accidents in terms of road user category has been reported as under:

Road user Persons killed.

Drivers 4-wheeled cars and light vehicles 7%

Passengers 4-wheeled cars and light vehicles 10%

Riders motorized 2- or 3-wheelers 34%
Cyclists 4%
Pedestrians 9%
Drivers/passengers heavy trucks 13%
Drivers/passengers buses 7%
Other 16%

(e) & (f) Yes, Madam. Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has been impressing from time to time to Road Authorities to comply with Road Safety norms during design, construction and operation of Roads including National Highways.
